

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This is the first chapter of the current study. It explores background of the study, limitation of the study, problem statements, objectives of the study, benefits of the study, and research paper organization.

#### **1.1 Background of the Study**

A language has crucial function for human being. The function is to be a means for them to engage in communication with others. As Wardhaugh (1992: 1) says that, language or code is the system of human being communication, and human beings employ it when they communicate with others in speech. This is the evidence that shows how the language works and how people cannot be separated from languages. Every society or nation in this world owns their languages, so there is no society or nation lives without any languages since the language itself is a part of human being. This reality makes people face the different languages in their daily life and they face it not only in speech such as conversation between friends or colleagues, but also in reading a book, listening to music, or watching television or a movie. The problem occurs when people do not understand foreign languages employed in books, novels, or movies, because they cannot understand the whole content of what they read or watch.

Generally speaking, watching a movie is common thing in people's daily life. Watching a movie is not big deal for people as long as the language used in the

movie is their own language. Yet, they do not only watch local movies using their own language, but also imported movies coming from abroad using foreign languages. As viewers, they do not get difficulties in understanding the whole content of the movies provided that they know the foreign languages. The problem arises when they do not know the foreign languages used in the movie that they watch. The lack of the knowledge of the foreign language distracts them to get the message of the movie. In this case, the translation works to overcome this problem by translating the foreign languages into the target languages to reach the target viewers who do not know the foreign languages. According to Cordero (2012: 350), translation has become a very important part of the modern world for its contribution in minimizing communication gaps and its ability to enable technical and scientific information to be accessed, along with ideas that model the society we live in. The prominent fact is that translation is a need for breaking communication gap and to spread the knowledge in all over the world.

Bell (1991: 5) denotes that “translation is the expression in another language (or target language) of what has been expressed in another, source language, preserving semantic and stylistic equivalence”. The main idea is that the translation is closely related to semantic and stylistic equivalence in source and target language. He also adds that “translation is the replacement of a representation of a text in one language by a representation of an equivalent text in second language”. He gives the additional information that semantic and

stylistic equivalence are prominent elements in translation to preserve an equivalent text in target language. In other words, the equivalence is something really crucial in dealing with the translation. To produce a good translation, the translators should consider the equivalent meaning to be presented in target language in order to make the target readers can get the message across of any kind of text.

Bassnet (2012: 12) states that translation involves the rendering of a source language text into the target language which provides the surface meaning of the two will be approximately similar. Based on Bassnet's definition, it is obvious that the rendering meaning related to the surface meaning between source language and target language. If the meaning is not similar or equal, the translation produces non equivalent meaning. The non equivalent meaning occurs at word level, at above word level, at grammar level, or at text level as proposed by Baker (1992: 110-119). Baker mentions that non-equivalent at word level means that the target language has no direct equivalent for a word which occurs in the source text (1992: 20). This theory emphasizes that there is possibility for non equivalent meaning occurs in translation, because there is no word in target language (henceforth, TL) which has the same meaning with the word in the source language (henceforth, SL). Meanwhile, Catford (1978: 21) proposes that the central problem of translation practice is that of finding TL translation equivalents. A central task of translation theory is that of defining the nature and conditions of translation equivalence. Catford (1978) emphasizes that finding

equivalent meaning in translation is very crucial. Indeed it is not an easy task for the translator in finding the equivalent one in translation.

Regarding to the issue of non equivalent meaning, Baker (1992: 26-42) claims that one of non equivalent meaning exists in the level of word. She also proposes eight strategies used by the translator when facing the constraints of non equivalent meaning at word level: translation by a more general word (superordinate); translation by a more neutral/ less expressive word; translation by cultural substitution; translation using a loan word or word plus explanation; translation by paraphrasing using a related word; translation by paraphrasing using unrelated word; translation by omission; and translation by illustration. Those strategies provide some ways for the translators to solve the problem of non equivalent meaning at word level that can distract the translation process.

Translation process is an activity of a translator when doing translation. In this case, Nida (1975: 80) has three steps of translation process that can be used by the translator: analysis; transferring; and restructuring. Obviously, the process of analysis is complex one involving at least three different sets of features; the grammatical relationships between constituent parts, the referential meanings of the semantic units, and the connotative values of the grammatical structures and the semantic units. In analysis process, the translators should have good understanding on the grammar and the lexical meaning between source language and target language. In this step they analyze

the structure of the languages and analyze the meaning of the words in both languages. In transferring process, the translators translate a text of source language into target language. They have to attempt to translate the text well. And in the last process, they have to check their translation and edit some parts of the translation to make the translation more accurate in the target language. This is the hard work for them to find the closest translation with the target language.

Regarding to the importance of the equivalence issue in the translation, the research on this matter would become a great help for translators and for those who are interested in translation, especially translation in the movie subtitle to overcome the constraints referring to equivalent meaning in the translation. By knowing the causal factors of the non equivalent meaning, the translators can conquer the problem by using some translation strategies employed to translate a text, especially subtitle of movies. This is the starting point for the researcher to conduct a research about this phenomenon. Therefore, the researcher conducts a research entitled *The Study of Non Equivalent Meaning in the Translation of the Movie Frozen*.

## **1.2 Limitation of the Study**

The main concern of this research is limited to the dialogues between the characters in the English and its Indonesian subtitle of the movie *Frozen*. Some theories from some experts will be applied in order to find out the types of

words which are non equivalent in meaning, the causal factors of non equivalent meaning in the level of word, and the translation strategies employed by the translator to translate the subtitle of the movie *Frozen*. Reference theory from Bell (1991) will be applied to examine whether the words are nonequivalence in meaning or not. The researcher will also use the theory of parts of speech from Palmer (2003) to classify the types of words which are non equivalent in meaning. Later, the researcher will use the theory from Baker (1992) to investigate the causal factors of the non equivalent meaning in translation of the subtitle of the movie *Frozen* and how the translator translates the subtitle of the movie *Frozen* dealing with non equivalent meaning at word level.

### **1.3 Problem Statements**

The main aim of this research is to investigate whether the non equivalent meaning exists in the translation of the subtitle of the movie *Frozen* and how the translator overcomes the problem of the non equivalent meaning in translating the subtitle of the movie *Frozen*. There are three problem statements formulated in this research:

1. What are the types of the words which have non equivalent meaning in the translation of the subtitle of the movie *Frozen*?
2. What are the causal factors of the non equivalent meaning in the translation the subtitle of the movie *Frozen*?

3. What are the translation strategies employed by the translator to translate the subtitle of the movie *Frozen* related to the non equivalent meaning at word level?

#### **1.4 Objectives of the Study**

Following the problem statements of this study, there are three objectives of the study. The first one is to classify the types of word which have non equivalent meaning in the translation of the subtitle of the movie *Frozen*. The second objective is to investigate the causal factors of the non equivalent meaning which exist in the translation of the subtitle of the movie *Frozen*. The last objective is to examine the translation strategies employed by the translator to translate the subtitle of the movie *Frozen* related to the non equivalent meaning at word level. In short, the main idea of this research is to reserve comprehensive information concerning with the non equivalent translation at word level, the causal factors of the phenomenon, and the translation strategies used by the translators to overcome the constraints related to non equivalent meaning at word level in the translation found in the subtitle of the movie *Frozen*.

#### **1.5 Benefits of the Study**

This study is hoped to give contribution on the translation studies research. The contribution encompasses two types, theoretical and practical significances. Theoretically, it will give integrated information on the translation studies

related to non equivalent meaning in translation. Practically, there are five benefits of this study:

1. This research gives the researcher knowledge about translation studies and the understanding of the non equivalent meaning issue in translation.
2. As an additional information for the translator to get more understanding about how to translate movies from English to Indonesian or vice versa more naturally.
3. As additional information for the English teacher to know more deeply about translation strategy, especially dealing with the non equivalent meaning at word level.
4. As an additional information for the students who are majoring in English to get broader understanding about the translation.
5. This study is also hoped to give information for the future researchers who are interested in doing research in the same field.

### **1.6 Research Paper Organization**

This research will be about the constraints of non equivalent meaning at word level found in the subtitle of the Frozen. It comprises five chapters systematically presented as follows:

Chapter 1, as an introductory part, consists of: (1) background of the study; (2) limitation of the study; (3) problem statements; (4) objectives of the study; (5) benefits of the study; (6) and research paper organization. Chapter 2 discusses



previous study, theoretical review, and theoretical framework pertinent to this study.

Chapter 3 explores the research method that consists of: (1) type of research; (2) research object; (3) data and data source; (4) technique of data collection; (5) data validity; and (6) technique of analyzing data. Chapter 4 is research findings and discussion. In this chapter, the researcher attempts to analyze the types of words which have non equivalent meaning in the target language, the causal factors of the non equivalent meaning at word level, and the translation strategies employed by the translator to translate the subtitle. Chapter 5 deals with conclusion and suggestion.

The next chapter is chapter two. It will discuss some previous studies and theories related to the current research.